Committee: Academic and Student Affairs       Date of Meeting: May 19, 2009

Agenda Item: Hibbing Community College Mission Approval

Proposed Policy Change  Approvals Required by Policy  Other Approvals  Monitoring

Information

Cite policy requirement, or explain why item is on the Board agenda:

Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of Institutional Missions requires institutions to have new missions approved by the Board. As required by procedure, the institution must indicate:

a. How its mission and vision respond to the definitions in procedure 3.24.1.
b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision.
c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers.
d. How the new mission compares with the former mission.
e. Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders.

Scheduled Presenter(s):

Kenneth Simberg, Provost, Hibbing Community College
Linda L. Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:

The proposed vision, mission and purposes of Hibbing Community College meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of Institutional Missions. The Higher Learning Commission requires accredited institutions to get approval from their governing boards for new missions.

Background Information:

The new mission for Hibbing Community College has been reviewed and found to meet all Board requirements for institutional missions.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed vision, mission and goals of Hibbing Community College meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of Institutional Missions.

Hibbing Community College’s vision, mission, purposes and array of awards are:

Vision: Hibbing Community College will be recognized for educational innovation and excellence and as a leader for economic development and community vitality.

Mission: Hibbing Community College provides life-changing educational opportunities in a dynamic learning environment.

Goals and Associated Purposes:

Strategic Goal 1: Hibbing Community College will employ intentional enrollment management strategies to include recruitment, enrollment, retention, and completion.

Hibbing Community College is committed to:
- Student success
- Inclusion of diversity
- Open-door admissions

Strategic Goal 2: Hibbing Community College will provide quality, innovative and flexible education to meet the needs of students and employers.

Hibbing Community College is committed to:
- Advancement of knowledge
- Collaboration to advance innovation
- Excellence in teaching and learning
- High academic standards
- Academic freedom and diversity of thought

Strategic Goal 3: Hibbing Community College will support economic development through education & provide cultural opportunities by bringing the World to Us.

Hibbing Community College is committed to:
- Promotion of economic growth
- Enrichment of cultural understanding
Strategic Goal 4: Hibbing Community College will provide up-to-date and technologically equipped facilities while being responsible to the environment.

Hibbing Community College is committed to:

- Sustainability of the environment
- Modern learning facilities, equipment and technology

Strategic Goal 5: Hibbing Community College will responsibly utilize human, financial, alternative funding, and technological resources to meet the current and future operational needs of the college.

Hibbing Community College is committed to:

- Development of faculty and staff

Array of Awards: Hibbing Community College offers the Associate in Arts, Associate in Applied Science and Associate in Science degrees as well as a variety of technical certificates.

An institution’s mission, vision and purposes shall support achievement of the system mission and vision: Hibbing Community College’s mission to “provide life-changing educational opportunities in a dynamic learning environment” and the associated purposes focus the institution on being an open access institution for a wide range of learners committed to excellence in teaching and learning in a dynamic and innovative learning environment to meet the needs of the Hibbing community and the larger region that it serves.

An institution’s mission, vision, and purposes shall provide a foundation for evaluation, accountability, and regional accreditation: Hibbing Community College’s vision, mission, and purposes provide a basis for evaluation, accountability, and regional accreditation.

Compliance: Hibbing Community College’s vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements.

BACKGROUND

Hibbing Community College, a technical and community college, was established on July 1, 1996, through the consolidation of Hibbing Community College and Range Technical College-Hibbing. Hibbing Community College joined the Academic Quality Improvement Program on July 12, 2006 and will have its next reaffirmation of accreditation in 2013-2014.

Hibbing Community College is centrally located on the Iron Range of Northeastern Minnesota. Its role has long been to provide Liberal Arts and technical education to the region and serve as a leader in economic development and community vitality as identified in the college’s vision statement.

Mission, Vision and Purposes Application Analysis

The proposed vision, mission, and purposes of Hibbing Community College meet the criteria identified in Board Policy 3.24 System and Institutional Missions, Part 2: Review and Approval of System Institutional Missions.
As required by procedure, the institution must indicate:

a. How its mission and vision respond to the definitions in procedure 3.24.1.
b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision.
c. Its purposes and the array of awards it offers.
d. How the new mission compares with the former mission.
e. Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders.

Additionally, the institution’s mission must be compliant with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements.

Review of Hibbing Community College’s Mission, Vision and Purposes

Hibbing Community College’s vision, mission and purposes meet these requirements.

a. The mission and vision respond to the definitions in the procedure:

Hibbing Community College’s mission to “provide life-changing educational opportunities in a dynamic learning environment” and the associated purposes support the following areas:

- Serving individuals seeking college level educational opportunities from an open-door admissions institution inclusive of diversity as stated in the college’s commitments.
- Focusing the institution on learning outcomes that demonstrate life changing education.
- Staying true to our ultimate purpose of providing collegiate, dynamic, educational opportunities.

The mission for Hibbing Community College is guided by a vision that reads “Hibbing Community College will be recognized for educational innovation and excellence and as a leader for economic development and community vitality.”

Hibbing Community College envisions a future in which:

- The college will be recognized for its innovation and related ability to lead in economic development and community vitality.
- In five years, the college will be more directly tied to the evolving economy due, in part, to its innovative means of meeting student and employer needs.
- The college’s distinction in Northeastern Minnesota comes from its depth and breadth of educational offerings. It is a college with strength in both liberal arts and technical education curriculum plus a significant presence in customized education; thereby, serving a vast array of educational needs in the area.
b. The extent to which the institution will meet expectations of law, how it relates to other institutions of higher education, and how its mission, vision and purposes support fulfillment of the system mission and vision:

Hibbing Community College’s mission supports the system mission in meeting students personal and career goals and enhancing the quality of life for Minnesotans. The institution’s goals support the system strategic plan in the following ways:

**Increase Access and Opportunity** in focusing on enrollment management strategies to include recruitment, enrollment, retention, and completion.

**Promote and Measure High-Quality Learning Programs & Services** in focusing on quality, innovative and flexible education to meet the needs of students and employers.

**Strengthen Community Development and Economic Vitality** in focusing on economic development through education and on cultural opportunities that bring the World to Us.

**Innovate for the Future** in focusing on human, financial, alternative funding, and technological resources to meet the current and future operational needs of the college and providing up-to-date and technologically equipped facilities while being responsible to the environment.

The Hibbing Community College vision supports the system vision in providing education that supports the success of our communities.

c. **Its purposes, values and array of awards it offers:**

Hibbing Community College’s Purposes includes the following:

1. Student success
2. Inclusion of diversity
3. Open-door admissions
4. Advancement of knowledge
5. Collaboration to advance innovation
6. Excellence in teaching and learning
7. High academic standards
8. Academic freedom and diversity of thought
9. Promotion of economic growth
10. Enrichment of cultural understanding
11. Development of faculty and staff
12. Sustainability of the environment
13. Modern learning facilities, equipment and technology

The Hibbing Community College vision, mission, and purposes are consistent with statute, policy, and regional accreditation requirements.
How the new mission compares with the former mission:

The former mission of Hibbing College was, “Hibbing Community College (HCC), a technical and community college, provides excellence in lifelong educational and career opportunities in a responsive learning environment.”

The new mission reads, “Hibbing Community College provides life-changing educational opportunities in a dynamic learning environment.”

Hibbing Community College’s previous mission statement was developed at the time of merger between the former Hibbing Technical College and former Community College, which is stated prominently. The new mission statement reflects the melding of the two former colleges into its current institution with a combined identity of “Hibbing Community College”. Remaining in the new mission statement is the college focus on students, quality and learning.

Ample consultation with faculty, students, employers and other essential stakeholders:

- Hibbing Community College’s new mission, vision and goals were developed from a college wide strategic planning process.
- A 16 member planning group broadly representing the college, including faculty, staff, administration and students, engaged in the strategic planning process over a four month period, including SWOT analysis drawing on labor market, demographic, student engagement, community surveys, and other data sources, analysis of vision, mission, and goals of other institutions, and prioritization of the most important areas of focus for the institution.
- College wide input was solicited during two separate all employee development days and also through electronic communication.
- Guidance and approval was sought from Northeast Higher Education District President Sue Collins in advancing the mission, vision, and goals to the Board of Trustees.
- Todd Harmening, Interim System Director for Planning in the Office of the Chancellor, served as lead facilitator of the planning process.

RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE MOTION

The Academic and Student Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the Hibbing Community College vision, mission, goals, purposes, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

The Board of Trustees approves the request by Hibbing Community College to approve its vision, mission, goals, purposes, and array of awards as listed in the executive summary.